

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended and claim 11 added herein. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-11 will be pending in the above-identified application.

Claims 1, 2, and 6 — JP '556

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1, 2, and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 2002-318556 (JP '556). As amended, claims 1, 2, and 6 recite a display apparatus including a plurality of lower electrodes patterned on a substrate in pixels, an auxiliary wiring disposed between adjacent lower electrodes at the same level as the lower electrodes and insulated from the lower electrodes, an insulating film formed on the substrate, the insulating film having pixel openings for exposing central portions of the lower electrodes and connection holes reaching the auxiliary wiring, and **an organic layer provided in each pixel covering bottom portions of the pixel openings, the organic layer in each pixel including a portion that overlaps at least a portion of the organic layer in an adjacent pixel of the pixels.**

JP '556 discloses an electroluminescent device including an electrode 122 formed in an opening 120b above a wiring 117 and including a layer formed between the electrode and the wiring. See Fig. 3. JP '556 does not disclose an organic layer provided in each pixel covering bottom portions of the pixel openings wherein the organic layer in each pixel includes a portion that overlaps at least a portion of the organic layer in an adjacent pixel of the pixels.

Because the reference does not disclose every feature of the claims, the rejection is improper. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 2, and 6 — Kobayashi

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1, 2, and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,900,470 (Kobayashi). As amended, claims 1, 2, and 6 recite a display apparatus including a

plurality of lower electrodes patterned on a substrate in pixels, an auxiliary wiring disposed between adjacent lower electrodes at the same level as the lower electrodes and insulated from the lower electrodes, an insulating film formed on the substrate, the insulating film having pixel openings for exposing central portions of the lower electrodes and connection holes reaching the auxiliary wiring, and **an organic layer provided in each pixel covering bottom portions of the pixel openings, the organic layer in each pixel including a portion that overlaps at least a portion of the organic layer in an adjacent pixel of the pixels.**

Kobayashi discloses an electroluminescent device including an electrode 122 formed in an opening 120b above a wiring 117 and including an organic layer 121 formed between the electrode and the wiring. See Fig. 3. Kobayashi does not disclose an organic layer provided in each pixel covering bottom portions of the pixel openings wherein the organic layer in each pixel includes a portion that overlaps at least a portion of the organic layer in an adjacent pixel of the pixels.

Because the reference does not disclose every feature of the claims, the rejection is improper. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 3 — Kobayashi in view of Sakaguchi

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection of claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP '556 in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,366,016 (Sakaguchi). Because claim 3 depends from claim 1, claim 3 is allowable for at least the same reasons identified above with respect to claim 1. The secondary reference does not provide or suggest the previously noted elements. Accordingly, Applicants request the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 4, 5, and 7 — JP '556 in view of Sakaguchi in view of Hosokawa

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection of claims 4, 5, and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP '556 in view of Sakaguchi and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,280,861 (Hosokawa). As amended, claims 4, 5,

and 7 recite a display apparatus including a plurality of lower electrodes patterned on a substrate in pixels, an auxiliary wiring disposed between adjacent lower electrodes at the same level as the lower electrodes and insulated from the lower electrodes, an insulating film formed on the substrate, the insulating film having pixel openings for exposing central portions of the lower electrodes and connection holes reaching the auxiliary wiring, and **an organic layer provided in each pixel covering bottom portions of the pixel openings, the organic layer in each pixel including a portion that overlaps at least a portion of the organic layer in an adjacent pixel of the pixels.**

JP '556 discloses an electroluminescent device including an electrode 122 formed in an opening 120b above a wiring 117 and including a layer between the electrode and the wiring. See Fig. 3. Sakaguchi discloses an electroluminescent panel and process for producing it. Hosokawa discloses an organic electroluminescent device including a transparent electrode having a two-layer structure including an amorphous electrically conductive oxide layer and a thin metal layer. See column 5, lines 6-22. The references, individually and in any combination, do not disclose or suggest an organic layer provided in each pixel covering bottom portions of the pixel openings wherein the organic layer in each pixel includes a portion that overlaps at least a portion of the organic layer in an adjacent pixel of the pixels.

Because the references do not, individually and in combination, disclose or suggest every feature of the claims, the rejection is improper. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 3 — Kobayashi in view of Sakaguchi

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection of claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kobayashi in view of Sakaguchi. Because claim 3 depends from claim 1, claim 3 is allowable for at least the same reasons identified above with respect to claim 1. The secondary reference does not provide or suggest the previously noted elements. Accordingly, Applicants request the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 4, 5, and 7 — Kobayashi in view of Sakaguchi in view of Hosokawa

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection of claims 4, 5, and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kobayashi in view of Sakaguchi and in further view of Hosokawa. As amended, claims 4, 5, and 7 recite a display apparatus including a plurality of lower electrodes patterned on a substrate in pixels, an auxiliary wiring disposed between adjacent lower electrodes at the same level as the lower electrodes and insulated from the lower electrodes, an insulating film formed on the substrate, the insulating film having pixel openings for exposing central portions of the lower electrodes and connection holes reaching the auxiliary wiring, and **an organic layer provided in each pixel covering bottom portions of the pixel openings, the organic layer in each pixel including a portion that overlaps at least a portion of the organic layer in an adjacent pixel of the pixels.**

Kobayashi discloses an electroluminescent device including an electrode 122 formed in an opening 120b above a wiring 117 and including an organic layer 121 between the electrode and the wiring. See Fig. 3. Sakaguchi discloses an electroluminescent panel and process for producing it. Hosokawa discloses an organic electroluminescent device including a transparent electrode having a two-layer structure including an amorphous electrically conductive oxide layer and a thin metal layer. See column 5, lines 6-22. The references, individually and in any combination, do not disclose or suggest an organic layer provided in each pixel covering bottom portions of the pixel openings wherein the organic layer in each pixel includes a portion that overlaps at least a portion of the organic layer in an adjacent pixel of the pixels.

Because the references do not, individually and in combination, disclose or suggest every feature of the claims, the rejection is improper. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion


As Applicants believe the application is in condition for allowance, a favorable action and a Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

Applicants believe there is no fee due at this time. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-3140.

If the Examiner desires, Applicants welcome a telephone interview to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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